

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 and 18-25 are in the application.

The indication that claims 8-10, 17 and 27 contain patentable subject matter is noted with appreciation. To that end, claims 8, 9 and 10 have been rewritten in independent form to contain all the limitations of their respective base claims. Base claims 1 and 22 have been amended to include limitations from allowable dependent claim 17. Independent claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 27. The Specification, claim 3 and claim 12 have been amended to correct an inadvertent editorial error. No new matter has been entered.

The drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR §1.83(a) for failing to show "the voltage controlled oscillator circuit being resident in an electronic component received in the first cavity..." Applicants note the Examiner's line-by-line review of the specification with great appreciation. Claim 3 has been amended to correctly define that the voltage controlled oscillator is present in the second cavity. Support for this amendment can be found in FIGS. 1 and 8 and at Specification 31:1117.

Applicants have taken this opportunity to submit a complete set of formal drawings to replace the informal drawings presently on file.

Claims 1-7, 11-15, 18-20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,154,095 to Shigemori et al. in view of Japan Published Application JP2000151283 by Hidefumi et al. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 17 except that the digital output signal has been defined as "responsive to" the controlled frequency signal rather than having substantially the same frequency. Claims 2-7, 11-15 and 18-20 and 21 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also allowable in view of the amendment to claim 1.

Claims 24-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,154,095 to Shigemori et al. in view of Japan Published Application JP2000151283 by Hidefumi et al., and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,604,468 to Gillig. Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 27. Claims 26 and 27 have been canceled in favor of amended claim 24. Claim 25 is dependent on claim 24 and is therefore allowable for the reasoning applied to allowable

claim 27.

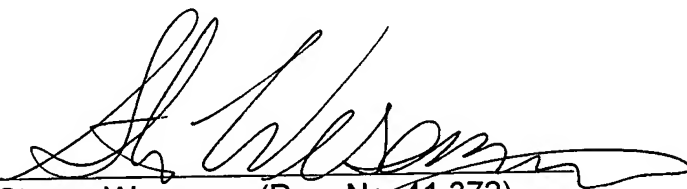
Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,154,095 to Shigemori et al. in view of Japan Published Application JP2000151283 by Hidefumi et al., and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,706,045 to Ouyang. Claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 17 except that the digital output signal has been defined as "responsive to" the controlled frequency signal rather than having substantially the same frequency. Claim 22 is therefore allowable for the reasoning applied to claim 17. Claim 23 is likewise allowable as a claim dependent on an allowable base claim.

Applicants have noted the art cited by the Examiner but not relied upon. None of these prior art references vitiate the patentability of the present claims.

The present amendments to the claims and the accompanying discussion are believed to dispose of all issues in this case and to place this application in condition for allowance. Passing of this application to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency associated with this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 03-1677.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Joan C. Ramm, hereby certify that this Amendment and Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on 6 October 2003 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Joan C. Ramm
Joan C. Ramm

6 October 2003
Date